VZCZCXRO4678 PP RUEHLH RUEHPW DE RUEHIL #3477 2201237 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 081237Z AUG 07 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0992 INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 7399 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1527 RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 6974 RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 3083 RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 1504 RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 2795 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 003477

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PGOV</u> <u>PREL</u> <u>PK</u>

SUBJECT: MUSHARRAF REAFFIRMS INTENT TO SEEK RE-ELECTION IN UNIFORM BEFORE CURRENT ASSEMBLIES

REF: A. ISLAMABAD 3128

¶B. ISLAMABAD 3424

- 11. (U) In public remarks August, 6, President Musharraf retierated his intention to run for re-election, in uniform, and before the current assembles. He indicated he did not believe the Connstitution would bar him from contesting the presidential election for a second term. He again asserted that present assemblies would not be dissolved before expiration of their term (November 15) and that the presidential election would be held between September 15 and October 15. New Attorney General Malik Qayyum also made his first public statement on the issue on August 6. Qayyum asserted "there is no constitutional or legal hindrance which could obstruct the re-election of the president in uniform from the present legislature."
- 12. (SBU) This is essentially what Musharraf announced during an interview with editors July 18. It indicates that publicly he is not backing down because of already filed or expected petitions to the Supreme Court that challenge his right to be reelected in uniform. PATTERSON